

YES Prep Public Schools

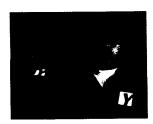












E WE?

Our Mission

YES Prep exists to increase the number of low-income Houstonians who graduate from a four-year college prepared to compete in the global marketplace and committed to improving disadvantaged communities.

Our Schools

Founded in 1998, YES Prep is a free, open-enrollment public school system that prepares low-income students for college graduation. YES's comprehensive 6th-12th grade academic model includes a longer school day and a mandatory Saturday school and summer school program. In addition, the YES charter mandates that students must be accepted to a four-year college in order to receive their high school diploma. There are currently four YES campuses in the greater Houston area that serve 1,500 low-income students:

- ★ 80% of YES students are economically-disadvantaged
- ★ 95% are Hispanic or African-American
- ★ 86% are first-generation college-bound
- ★ Most students enter YES one grade level behind in math and English

Our Results

YES Prep's ultimate goal is to become the public school system in greater Houston that prepares the most low-income students for college graduation:

- ★ 100% of YES students in six graduating classes have been accepted to college
- ★ YES graduates have been accepted to 190 schools nationwide, including: Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Yale, Stanford, Vanderbilt, Rice, University of Texas, and Texas A&M
- ★ Collectively, YES students have earned over \$13 million in scholarships & financial aid
- ★ 78% of YES alumni have graduated or are still enrolled in a four-year college (compared to the national retention average of 50% for all ethnic groups and 22% for low-income students)

What Makes YES Different

Commitment to Excellence: Every year parents, teachers, and students sign a contract that says they will do "Whatever It Takes" to pursue the YES mission of college graduation.

Building Positive Relationships: YES has developed a unique student support model that includes small faculty advising groups, social services, tutoring sessions, and a college counseling department that begins working with students in ninth grade. In addition, all staff are given school-sponsored cell phones to be accessible to their students after school hours.

Creating Opportunities: Students participate in week-long spring college research trips, monthly field lessons and exciting summer programs.

Achieving Social Justice: YES means "Youth Engaged in Service". Students complete monthly service projects in the local community and log hundreds of volunteer hours over their seven years at YES. These experiences ensure they become future leaders who understand the importance of civic responsibility and are committed to improving disadvantaged communities.

6201 Bonhomme, Suite 168N Houston, Texas 77036 713.574.7600 fax 713.589.2502 www.yesprep.org

Top 100 High Schools in America

- Newsweek, May 2006



College Acceptance List: 2001-2006

- 100% of YES's graduating seniors have been accepted to a four-year college
- YES graduates have been accepted to 191 colleges and universities nationwide
- Students have received scholarships, grants, and financial aid awards totaling \$13.1 million dollars
- 87% of the graduates are first generation college-bound students

Adelphi University **Alcorn State University** Angelo State University Appalachian State University Art Inst. of Boston - Lesley Univ. Art Institute of California **Art Institute of Houston** Asbury College **Austin College Barnard College Baylor University** Berea College **Berry University Biola University Boston University Brandeis University Brown University Butler University** California Institute of the Arts California Lutheran University Canisius University **Centenary College** Clark Atlanta University College of Santa Fe College of St. Rose College of William and Mary Colorado College Colorado School of Mines Colorado State University **Columbia University** Concordia University Concordia University Concordia University **Connecticut College Cornell University Dallas Baptist University DePaul University Drexel University Duke University Earlham College** Elizabeth City State University **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Emerson College** Eugene Lang College - New School University **Evergreen State University Fairfield University Fayetteville State University** Florida Institute of Technology Fordham University Franklin and Marshall College Franklin Pierce College George Mason University **George Washington University** Georgetown University Gonzaga University

Grambling State University

Grinnell College

Hamilton College

Hartwick College

Haverford College

Hendrix College

Hollins University

Hofstra University

High Point University

Grand Valley State University

Houston Baptist University Huston-Tillotson College International Academy of Design & Technology **Iowa State University** Johns Hopkins University **Kansas City Art Institute Kettering University Knox College Lafayette College** Lake Superior State University **Lamar University** Lehigh University LeTourneau University Loyola Marymount University Loyola University Maine College of Art Mary Baldwin College **Marymount University Marquette University McMurry University** Menlo College **Midwestern State University** Morgan State University Mt. Holyoke College Nazareth College **New York University Norfolk State University** Northeastern University Northwestern University **Northwood University** Oberlin College Occidental College Oregon Institute of Technology Otis College of Art and Design **Our Lady of the Lake University** Park University Philadelphia University Pitzer College Pomona College Prairie View A&M University **Pratt Institute Regis University Rice University Rochester Institute of Technology** Saint Mary's College Sam Houston State University Sarah Lawrence College **Schreiner University Scripps College Seattle University** Seton Hall University **Smith College** Southern University Southern Methodist University Southwestern Adventist University Spring Hill College **Stanford University** Stephen F. Austin University St. Edward's University St. Francis University St. Louis University St. Mary's University St. Thomas University Susquehanna University

Syracuse University

Texas A&M University Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi Texas A&M University - Galveston Texas A&M University – Kingsville **Texas Christian University** Texas College Texas Lutheran University **Texas Southern University** Texas State University – San Marcos **Texas Tech University** Texas Woman's University **Trinity University Tufts University Tulane University** University of Arizona University of Chicago **University of Dallas** University of Dayton University of Delaware **University of Houston** Univ. of Houston - Honors College University of Louisiana -- Lafayette University of Maine University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Univ. of Massachusetts - Amherst University of Miami University of Michigan University of Missouri - Columbia University of New Mexico **University of North Texas University of Notre Dame** University of Oregon **University of Pennsylvania** University of Redlands **University of Rochester** University of San Diego University of San Francisco University of Scranton Univ. of Southern California **University of St. Thomas** University of Texas - Arlington University of Texas - Austin University of Texas - Dallas University of Texas - El Paso University of Texas - San Antonio Univ. of the Incarnate Word University of Tulsa **University of Vermont University of Washington** Valparaiso University **Vanderbilt University** Washington University in St. Louis Webster University Wellesley College Wesleyan University Whitman College **Whittier College** Wingate University **Woodbury University** Worcester Polytechnic Institute **Xavier University of Louisiana Xavier University Yale University**

YES College Prep: Only Houston School Ranked in Newsweek's Top 100 High School List



The Best of The Bunch

EWSWERK's list of America's top high schools honors those institutions that do she meet to help regalar title propert for college work. This year

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Excerpt taken from Why AP Matters May 2006

THE CLASS RANKING RATIO FREELUNCH



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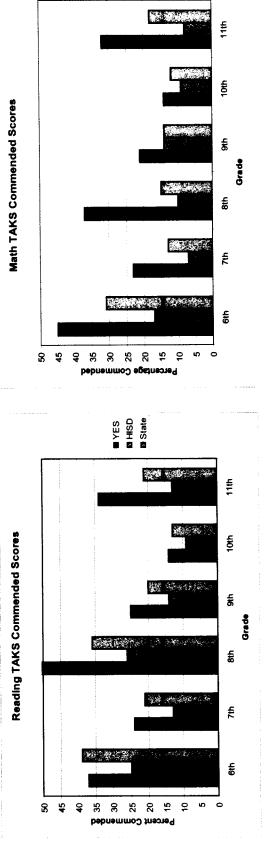
■ YES ■ HISD ■ State

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Commended Performance

məvə

Commended Performance is the designation used by the Texas Education Agency for students who answer 90 percent or more of the questions on a given test correctly.



■ YES

■ HISD

■ State



YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS: OVERVIEW

OUR MISSION

YES Prep exists to increase the number of low-income Houstonians who graduate from a four-year college prepared to compete in the global marketplace and committed to improving disadvantaged communities.

BACKGROUND

YES College Preparatory Schools has evolved from a small charter school project that began in 1995 at an elementary school in one of Houston's poorest communities. Today, YES is a network of free, open-enrollment, public schools that prepare low-income students for collegiate success. In 2006, YES will serve 1,500 students on four campuses in the greater Houston area. YES's unique model sets high expectations for its students by requiring every student to secure acceptance into a four-year college in order to graduate from high school. The comprehensive 6th-12th grade model includes a longer school day, Saturday and summer school sessions, access to special enrichment experiences, and an intensive college counseling and alumni program.

As an open-enrollment public school system, YES cannot "skim" its student body from the independent school districts; instead, students for each campus are chosen through YES's random lottery system. To ensure access for all students, YES provides free transportation for any student who requires bussing. The current student profile is as follows:

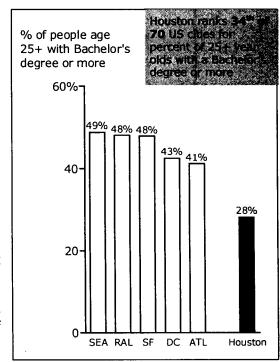
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- 95% are Hispanic or African-American
- 86% are first-generation college-bound
- Most students enter YES at least one grade level behind in math and reading

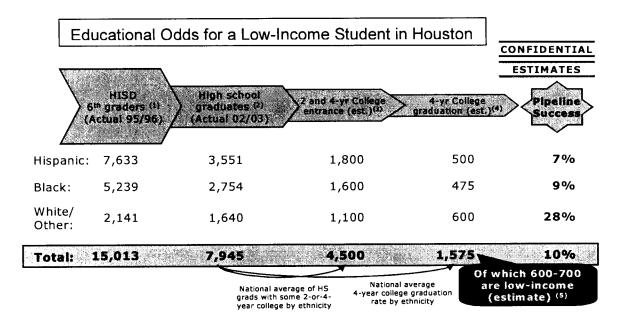
NEED IN HOUSTON

The graph to the right illustrates that Houston lags behind other U.S. cities in the educational attainment of its residents. Houston's low-income communities, in particular, suffer from a profound dearth of college-educated residents. Children in these communities desperately need access to educational opportunities that provide them with opportunities to improve their individual quality of life while also contributing to Houston's overall economic sustainability.

To date, Houston's educational system has failed to provide the means for these students to obtain a 4-year college education and use it as a lever to strengthen the entire community.

Approximately 12,000 of the 15,000 sixth graders in HISD come from low-income families. As the "pipeline slide" on the next page indicates, the average low-income sixth grade student has an 8% chance of graduating from a four-year college. Annually, Houston's 33 public high schools only produce 1,575 students who will graduate from a four-year college, and only 600 of these graduates are from low-income families:





YES RESULTS

YES has proven that it is possible to radically change the educational odds for Houston's low-income student population:

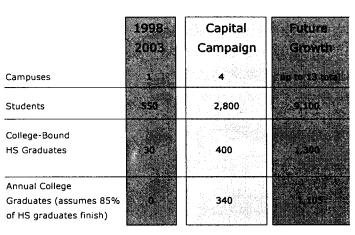
- 100% of the graduating seniors (six classes) have been accepted to a four-year college
- YES seniors have been accepted to 190 schools nationwide, including Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Yale, Stanford, Vanderbilt, Rice, Texas A&M, and University of Texas-Austin
- YES graduates have earned over \$13 million in scholarships and financial aid
- 78% of YES alumni are still enrolled in college (compared to the national retention average of 50% for all ethnic groups and 22% for low-income students)

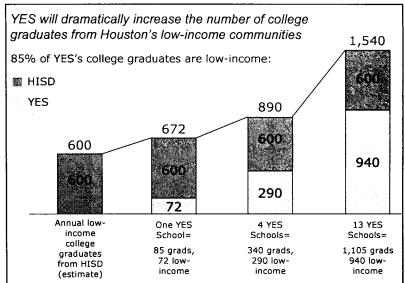
In addition to collegiate results, YES has achieved recognition at the local and national level:

- YES is the only charter school system in Texas to earn the two highest Texas Education Agency ratings of Exemplary or Recognized for eight consecutive years.
- In May, Newsweek ranked YES as one of the top 100 public high schools in the nation. This
 annual list represents the top 1% of all public schools nationwide and YES was the only school in
 Houston to be included on the list.
- In March 2006, the *Houston Press* ranked YES as the best open-enrollment public high school in Houston (out of 116 area schools).
- In 2003, YES was one of twenty schools nationwide to receive the U.S. Department of Education's Dispelling the Myth award for educational excellence in low-income communities

THE YES MODEL: PLANS FOR GROWTH

YES's long-term goal is to improve the quality of life in Houston by dramatically increasing the number of low-income students who graduate from college. YES has embarked on a strategic plan to build the infrastructure it needs to ultimately allow YES to open a total of 13 schools in the greater Houston area and annually serve over 9,000 students. Even with just four schools in operation, over 30% of Houston's low-income students attending college will be graduates of YES.





As a state charter school, YES receives operating funds from the Texas Education Agency and federal title programs. While state and federal funding provides operating revenue, YES must raise additional support from the philanthropic community, corporations, and individuals to provide its complete educational model. Currently, YES receives no state funding for its capital expenses. Thus, YES has to stretch its operating dollars and raise additional philanthropic support to cover both its comprehensive academic program and also fund its ongoing capital needs.

Within the last eighteen months, YES has secured large multi-year grants to help fund this current phase of expansion. This operational funding has come from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (through the Texas High School Project), the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation, Bridgeway Capital Management, Charter Fund, Marathon Oil, and Duke Energy.

This support also provides YES with an ideal window of opportunity to initiate a \$15 million capital campaign that will result in a long-term facility solution for its three existing campuses and establish a fourth school. Since launching the campaign in the summer of 2005, more than \$6.2 million has been raised to date from the Board of Trustees and early major donors, including a recent \$3 million grant from the Brown Foundation. YES hopes to complete the campaign within the next three years. An extensive list of named gift opportunities has been developed to recognize donors at all levels of support.

CONTACT INFORMATION

YES Prep aims for nothing less than a transformation of Houston's low-income neighborhoods. YES looks forward to partnering with the philanthropic community to ensure more of the city's disadvantaged students can pursue their dreams of collegiate success.

For more information about YES, please visit our website at www.yesprep.org or contact the Director of Development, Ryan Dolibois, by phone at 713-574-7595 and by e-mail at rdolibois@yesprep.org.



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